

ABSTRACT

A signal encoding transmission apparatus has  
layered encoding means of structuring a transmission  
signal in a plurality of layers in a hierarchy, and of outputting  
a plurality of compressed bit streams generated by encoding the  
respective layered signals; and

modulating/transmitting means of (1) modulating each of  
the output compressed bit streams by a modulation method  
determined for each layer, and/or (2) transmitting the compressed  
bit streams by using carriers determined for each layer.